

REFORM OF EPITAPHS.

In your late numbers you have published some instances of curious and inappropriate epitaphs on tombstones. I have a collection of such in my possession, and now send you a few from it. From Dorchester, Oxfordshire:—

"Here lies the body of —, an honest man,
And when he died he owed nobody nothing."

From Bideford, Devonshire:—

"The wedding-day appointed was,
And wedding-clothes provided;
But when the day arrived did,
She sickened and she did die."

From Ulverstone:—

"Here lies my wife,
Here lies she;
Hallelujah,
Hallelujah."

From Sevenoaks:—

"Grim death took me without any warning,
I was well at night and died in the morning."

From Doncaster:—

"Here lie two brothers, by misfortune surrounded,
One dy'd of his wounds, and the other was
drowned."

J. S. P.

FINDING that your readers are interested in epitaphs, I send you two or three extracted from a work published by "William Snow," in 1847, containing a great many taken *verbatim* from different parts of England and Wales.

The first is an epitaph on a poor woman who kept an earthenware shop, taken from a churchyard at Chester:—

"Beneath this stone lies Catherine Gray,
Changed to a lifeless lump of clay:
By earth and clay she got her pelf,
And now she's turned to earth herself.
Ye weeping friends, let me advise,
Abate your tears and dry your eyes;
For what avails a flood of tears?
Who knows but in a course of years,
In some tall pitcher or brown pan,
She in her shop may be again!"

The following is taken from Newcastle churchyard:—

"Here lies Robin Wallas,
The King of Good Fellows,
Clerk of All-bellows,
And maker of bellows.
He bellows did make till the day of his death,
But he that made bellows could never make breath."

Here is a curious one from Hendon churchyard:—

"Beneath this stone Tom Crossfield lies,
Who cares not now who laughs or cries:
He laughed when sober, but when mellow,
Was a har-em-scar-em heedless fellow.
He gave to none designed offence,
So 'Honi soit qui mal y pense.'"

Most epitaph writers try to find out the best qualities of the departed; not so the writer of the following, taken from a churchyard at Manchester:—

"Here lies John Hill,
A man of skill,
His age was five times ten:
He never did good,
Nor ever would,
Had he lived as long again."

I cannot recollect where I saw the following, but I can answer for its being genuine.

"Sacred to the memory
Of Miss Martha Gwyne,
Who was so very pure within,
She burst the outward shell of sin,
And hatched herself a cherubim."—R. J.

Several other correspondents have favoured us with collections of similarly distressing outrages of good sense, good taste, propriety, and right feeling; but we do not think it desirable to print them. Our object was to aid in awakening attention to the errors that have been committed in this respect, with the view of inducing the adoption of a better course. The case is fully proved, and needs no strengthening.

* Another version of Shakespeare's—

"Imperial Caesar dead and turned to clay,
Might stop a hole to keep the wind away."—Ed.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

FEBRUARY 11.—The Hon. Robert Meade exhibited a silver piece struck at Newark in the time of Charles I. and a brass coin of the Emperor Maximian; and Mr. Rolfe, a silver medal struck in commemoration of the triumph of the bishops who were sent to the Tower by James II. Mr. Horace Burdett exhibited a drawing of a Roman urn of a novel type, discovered in making the recent excavations in Cannon-street, London; and two drawings of sepulchral slabs, with crosses sculptured on them, from the same place. They were of remarkably small dimensions. Mr. Briggs, of King's Newton, communicated a drawing and description of a curious knife, or *couteau de chasse*; and Mr. Carrington, some further remarks on the cross of John Trembras, of Renkeril, Cornwall, exhibited by him at the last meeting. Papers were read from Mr. H. W. King, on the antiquities in Runwell Church, Essex, and the inscriptions and curious coats of arms on bells in other churches; from Mr. Lukis, of Guernsey, on the discovery of two sepulchral caves in that island, in August, 1851, accompanied by two drawings; and from Mr. Pretty, of Northampton, on recent discoveries of Roman and Mediæval antiquities in that city. Mr. Black exhibited a fragment of tapestry which he had found in the Roll's Office, representing the figure of Penelope. It was of the close of the fifteenth century. Mr. Planché read some observations on tapestry in general, and particularly those pieces which are still in existence in this country at Hardwick and Haddon Halls, Hampton Court, and other palaces and mansions. Mr. Pettigrew concluded a very interesting evening by an account of his recent unwrapping of the body of the ecclesiastic discovered in the crypt of St. Stephen's Chapel, Westminster. A cast from the face was on the table, and also the soles of the shoes or sandals found upon the feet.

Notices of Books.

Notes on the Organization of an Industrial College for Artisans. By T. TWining, Jun. For Private Circulation.

THE letter of Mr. Twining to Lord Shaftesbury, on the subject of industrial schools, which came before the public through our pages, has expanded in the author's hands into a specific and formal outline of an organized system of industrial education for the working classes, with a central metropolitan college and local schools throughout the country. In his introduction the author says:—

"The form which I have adopted in arranging my remarks is that which seemed most likely to render them convenient to those who might be desirous of giving a full consideration to the subject of a National College of Trades, and more particularly to any committee which might be appointed for advising on that important desideratum. I have given *verbatim* most of the topics which it would be desirable to discuss, adding a few observations in a merely suggestive form, and less with the object of advancing my own views than with the hope of eliciting valuable opinions from others. My suggestions are based on the principles and preliminaries contained in my letter of the 21st of August, given above. They chiefly relate to the organization of the Central Industrial College, which, I assume, might, allowing free scope for progressive enlargements, be made to accommodate at the first about 300 students, representing in duly apportioned numbers a considerable variety of Trades.—Artistical, Chemical, and Mechanical. They would enter as good workmen, being required to give previous proof of such abilities as can be derived from an ordinary apprenticeship: they would be instructed, collectively, in general information, and, by groups, in special knowledge: they would be trained to work with head as well as hand, and to appreciate and apply the advantages of science and the graces of art, and they would leave the College fully qualified to become, some masters in trade, others foremen or first-rate workmen, whilst others again, carefully selected and instructed for the purpose, would become teachers in their turn, and diffuse throughout the country the advantages of Industrial Education."

The establishment of an Industrial Museum is also suggested; and on this subject Mr. Twining says,—

"If the walls of the National Gallery were dismantled of their pictures, which every one wishes to see transferred to a less smoky atmosphere, the building might be enlarged, by additions for which peculiar facilities present themselves; and whilst one portion would be allotted to the Royal Academy, with its school of Fine Arts, the other portion, including the barracks, might accommodate the expanding dimensions of the Society of Arts, together with the proposed Museum of Industry, of which the management would so naturally devolve on that Society, and space would be afforded for annual exhibitions of the nature of those now cramped within the walls of the house in John-street, Adelphi. . . . In accordance with these adaptations of existing establishments, I hope to see arise the new elements of industrial organization imperatively claimed by that manufacturing pre-eminence which we would fain perpetuate; and first in importance, and with name and proportions by which we may at once recognise the offspring of the Great Exhibition—THE ALBERTINE COLLEGE OF TRADES."

An Account of the Danes and Norwegians in England, Scotland, and Ireland. By J. J. A. Worsaae, For. F.S.A. London: Murray, 1852.

NOTWITHSTANDING the intimate connection in early times between this country and Denmark (anything but agreeable in some respects, it must be admitted), and the numerous memorials of this connection which remain amongst us, very little was known of Modern Denmark by the majority of English readers until recently. Mr. Peto's endeavour to establish a more ready means of communication by means of a line of steamers from Lowestoft (an endeavour, which, we fear, has not been very successful up to this time in a pecuniary point of view), had the effect of directing public attention to Denmark, and led to the wide dissemination of general particulars of its present condition and aspect.

The book before us originated with the late King Christian VIII. of Denmark, who was desirous that an inquiry should be made respecting the monuments and memorials of the Danes and Norwegians remaining in Scotland and the British Isles. The task was entrusted to Mr. Worsaae, who visited England in 1846, and travelled in the kingdom for twelve months. Mr. Worsaae brought with him the reputation of a distinguished archaeologist, and fully confirmed it to those who had the pleasure of meeting him.

Denmark Court, Denmark-street, and Copenhagen-street, remind the wanderer of more recent connection with this country, but the memorials of the early occupation of London by the Danes and Northmen are numerous. At St. Clement's Danes in the Strand, called in the middle ages *Ecclesia Sancti Clementis Danorum*, the Danes had their own burial-place; and here, after vicissitudes, were interred the remains of Canute's ann, Harold Harefoot. Southwark (or Sydvirke) had a Danish origin. Here there is a church to Olaf, the Norwegian king; and Tooley-street is a corruption of St. Olave-street. To Olaf and Magnus, the latter also a Norwegian, various churches were dedicated. Mr. Worsaae shows, as might be expected, a desire to magnify the influence exercised by the Danes over the people they harassed: he has, however, produced an interesting book, calling for the attention of all students of history.

Murray's Official Handbook of Church and State. Murray, Albemarle-street. 1852.

MR. MURRAY is determined, it appears, to provide guide-books for every one to every thing. In its nature this new work is essentially and unavoidably periodical, and subject to changes; but it will prove in one sense to be a standard one for multifarious reference and general use. Mr. Samuel Redgrave is the compiler. The work appears to be a complete *omnium gatherum* of all that relates officially to church and state. It contains the names, duties, and powers of the principal civil, military, judicial, and ecclesiastical authorities of the united kingdom and colonies; with lists of